DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION & RECREATION NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING AND PUBLIC COMMENT

The Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) and the Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) seek written and oral comments from interested persons on the development of an Implementation Plan (IP) for fecal bacteria and sediment Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs) for: a 40.1 mile length of the Middle Fork Holston River from its headwaters near Rural Retreat downstream to Edmondson dam (near Route 91 crossing), and a 5.7 mile length of Wolf Creek, from the Highway 11 crossing in Abingdon downstream to the South Holston Reservoir. These portions of the Middle Fork Holston River and Wolf Creek watershed are located in Wythe, Smyth, and Washington Counties, including the Towns of Marion, Chilhowie, and Abingdon. The TMDL studies for these stream impairments were completed in October 2009, and can be found in the *Bacteria and Benthic TMDL Development for Middle Fork Holston River and Bacteria and Benthic TMDL Development for Wolf Creek* study reports on DEO's website at:

 $\underline{http://www.deq.virginia.gov/portals/0/DEQ/Water/TMDL/apptmdls/tenbigrvr/mfholstonbcec.pdf}\\ \underline{http://www.deq.virginia.gov/portals/0/DEQ/Water/TMDL/apptmdls/tenbigrvr/wolfbcec.pdf}$

Section 62.1-44.19:7.C of the Code of Virginia requires the development of an IP for approved TMDLs. The IP should provide measurable goals and the date of expected achievement of water quality objectives. The IP should also include the corrective actions needed and their associated costs, benefits, and environmental impacts.

The final public meeting for the development of the IP will be held on Thursday, March 28, 2013 at 6:30 p.m. at the DEQ Regional Office, 355 Deadmore St., Abingdon, VA 24210. At this meeting, a draft of the implementation plan will be discussed and citizens will be able to offer input on and ask questions about the plan.

The 30-day public comment period on the information presented at the meeting will end on April

27, 2013. A fact sheet on the development of the IP is available upon request. Questions or information requests should be addressed to Patrick Lizon, TMDL/Watershed Field Coordinator with the Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation. Written comments and inquiries should include the name, address, and telephone number of the person submitting the comments and should be sent to Patrick Lizon, VA Department of Conservation and Recreation, 355 Deadmore Street, Abingdon, VA 24210, email address: Patrick.Lizon@dcr.virginia.gov, phone # (276) 676-5529.